Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Friday 15 Jan 2021 until 23:59 on Saturday 16 Jan 2021

Forecast Issued on Friday 15 Jan 2021 at 03:02

Confidence: High for Friday and Saturday. High for changeable conditions continuing into early next week but low confidence for daily detail at this stage.

Headline for Friday 15 Jan 2021: Dry, cold and bright.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 15 Jan 2021

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Low Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Low Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Clear night	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability					
00%	00%	00%	00%	00%	00%

Forecast for Friday 15 Jan 2021

Weather: Any mist and freezing fog in the valleys will be slow to clear. Otherwise dry and bright with some hazy sunshine. Cold winds at height, strong winds developing after dark.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Some patchy cloud around 500 metres or below, otherwise little in the way of low cloud expected.

Visibility: Mostly very good

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Friday 15 Jan 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	5/6 S	9/11 S	15/20 S	20/27 SE	22/28 SE	29/38 SE	37/47 SE
600	5/7 S	11/15 S	17/24 S	22/32 S	23/33 S	30/43 S	33/46 SE
300	4/7 S	6/11 S	9/15 S	11/20 S	12/23 S	14/30 S	13/33 S
Valley	2/5 SE	4/8 SE	6/11 SE	5/13 SE	8/17 SE	11/24 SE	14/30 SE

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-3/-6	-4/-10	-3/-9	-3/-10	-4/-11	-3/-12	-3/-12
600	-2/-5	-3/-8	-2/-8	-2/-10	-3/-11	-3/-12	-3/-12
300	-2/-4	-1/-5	0/-4	-0/-5	-1/-7	-1/-7	-1/-7
Valley	1/-1	1/-1	2/-0	2/-1	1/-3	1/-4	1/-4
Freezing Level*	200m	200m	300m	200m	200m	100m	200m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Note strengthening winds in the evening.

Forecast for Saturday 16 Jan 2021

Weather: Rain and higher summit snow clearing by the end of the morning. Then somewhat brighter with the chance of showers in the afternoon, wintry on the tops later. Strong northwesterly winds at height.

Maximum wind: Northwesterly gusts to 45 mph

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 20%. Extensive low cloud down to 500 metres in the morning, this breaking up a little in the afternoon.

Visibility: Outside of cloud and rain very good.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 4 rising to 8 Celsius
At 800m: Minus 2 rising to plus 2 Celsius falling back to zero Celsius later
Freezing level: 400 metres at first, rising above summits in the afternoon. Falling back to 800 metres after dark.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Thursday 14 January 2021. Location: Great Rigg summit (766m) at 12:50. Full report: We are continuing to provide the Fell Top Reports for people undertaking their daily local exercise during the lockdown. We would like to remind everyone that Government guidance stipulates that people should only exercise locally, not leaving the village, town or city where they live. Today's report comes with a health warning (and we are all used to them at the moment!) in that it was snowing heavily whilst I was on the hill, continued to do so as I descended and Cumbria is under a Met Office Yellow warning for snow and ice until 9pm on Thursday. Therefore anyone exercising locally in the fells on Friday should expect and be prepared to encounter more snow than described and experienced on Thursday. Depending upon your starting point, snow was falling and settling virtually down to valley level and certainly above 200m. At this altitude it was soft and wet with paths saturated so if there is an overnight valley frost tonight (currently not forecast, but only marginally so) walkers on Friday should expect to encounter ice on paths at all levels. With increasing altitude, the consistency of the snowpack changed to soft powder. The snow was being deposited on a predominantly easterly (SE-NE) strong breeze (5 to 6 on the Beaufort wind scale) with only 2cm on windblown areas to drifts of over 1m in sheltered spots and hollows. A very approximate average was around 10cm at 750m, with knee deep drifts being fairly common. This made the going hard and laborious and should be considered when route planning for Friday. Above 600m, and increasingly above 700m, the fresh snow lay above old snow and ice on paths and rocks making conditions treacherous especially on windblown areas with less snow cover. With a summit windchill on Great Rigg (766m) of minus 12 degrees C, full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat and gloves), mountain boots and equipment are all essential for anyone going out onto the fells. For those venturing above the snowline, an ice axe is essential and crampons must be carried in case the soft snow hardens or ice is encountered. With the deep snow, walking poles will be useful and goggles recommended to lessen the sting of hail and spindrift driven on strong winds (they were certainly used today!). For thinner ice on paths, microspikes and poles are extremely useful. Deep snow obscuring landmarks combined with low cloud demands excellent navigational skills as paths cannot simply be followed (even directional cairns were disappearing beneath the snow) and steep drops are far less obvious, so please be conservative with your plans and know your limits. Temperature: minus 2.1 C, Maximum wind speed 28.7 mph, Wind chill: minus 11.8 C, Average wind speed: 22.7 mph

Issued at: 03:02 on Fri 15 Jan 2021

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